



McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

O.K TO Enter
N.N
9/17/2009

Fax transmittal

To	Examiner Nguyen Hoang Ngo	Date	September 16, 2009
Company	U.S. Patent & Trademark Office	From	Lawrence H. Aaronson
Fax	571 273-8398	Direct	312 913 2141
Phone		Email	aaronson@mbhb.com
Pages	4	C/M	134/514

Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/629,381

Dear Examiner Ngo:

Per our discussion yesterday, I have prepared the attached amended claim listing for you to include as an Examiner's Amendment with a notice of allowance. If you have any questions about the form of the amendments, please give me a call at 312-913-2141.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lawrence H. Aaronson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lawrence H. Aaronson
Reg. No. 35,818

Amended Claim Listing

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1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

during initiation of a real-time media session between a plurality of user stations via a communication server, the communication server directing at least one of the user stations to operate in a particular mode selected from the group consisting of half-duplex mode and full-duplex mode, wherein directing the at least one user station to operate in the particular mode comprises sending an instruction to the at least one user station, the instruction directing the at least one user station to operate in the particular mode, and wherein the method further comprises a given one of the user stations receiving the instruction and responsively operating in the particular mode during the real-time media session, wherein operating in the particular mode during the real-time media session comprises (a) receiving an incoming media stream from the communication server while sending an outgoing media stream to the communication server during the real-time media session, (b) treating the incoming media stream as a floor denial if the particular mode is half-duplex, and (c) playing out the incoming media stream if the particular mode is full-duplex.

wherein each user station is (i) a half-duplex capable station or (ii) a half-duplex and full-duplex capable station, and wherein the method further comprises during the real-time media session, the communication server detecting that a half-duplex capable station joins the session and responsively directing each other participating station to operate in the half-duplex mode.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
the communication server selecting the particular mode.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein selecting the particular mode comprises:

the communication server learning that at least one of the user stations is half-duplex capable and responsively selecting half-duplex as the particular mode.

4-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[5]] 1, wherein sending the instruction comprises sending the instruction within session setup signaling.

7-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[8]] 1, wherein treating the incoming media stream as a floor denial comprises:

presenting a floor denial alert to a user in response to receipt of the incoming media stream.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the alert comprises at least one of an audible alert, a visual alert and a vibratory alert.

11. (Cancelled) The method of claim 7, wherein operating in the particular mode during the real-time media session comprises:

if the particular mode is half-duplex, then applying implicit floor control; and

if the particular mode is full-duplex, then not applying implicit floor control.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
the communication server operating in the particular mode during the session.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein operating in the particular mode comprises:

if the particular mode is half-duplex, then applying implicit floor control; and

if the particular mode is full-duplex, then not applying implicit floor control.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
during initiation of the real-time media session, the communication server receiving from
a user station a request to operate in the particular mode; and
the server responsively performing the directing.

15-23. (Cancelled)